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THINGS TO KNOW

Caravan of migrants in Mexico starts moving toward US

A caravan of some 1,200 migrants from Central America and Cuba began moving toward the U.S. on Saturday.

The National Migration Institute said the migrants were already inside Mexico when they opted to form a caravan in the southern city of Tapachula on the border with Guatemala.

Early on Saturday, the large group of people set off toward the town of Huixtla in the southern state of Chiapas, a route followed by previous groups heading north, the institute said.

Caravans of migrants

bound for the United States have sparked friction with U.S. President Donald Trump, who has accused Mexico of failing to contain illegal immigration and wants a border wall built to stop people crossing.

The new government of leftist President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has pledged to curb the migrant flows by better regulating the movement of people, and by offering job opportunities and better pay for those willing to stay.

The migration institute said the roughly 1,200 migrants were from Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Cuba. **REUTERS**



ALL GETTY IMAGES

Apple's media ambition: Original shows, news subs

2 Apple Inc. is expected to unveil a new video-streaming service and a news subscription platform at an event on Monday at its Cupertino, Calif., headquarters. The tech giant has long hinted at a planned video service, spending \$2 billion in Hollywood to produce its own content and signing major stars such as Oprah Winfrey. Sources familiar with the matter earlier told Reuters that the service

may resell subscriptions from CBS Corp., Viacom Inc. and Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.'s Starz, among others, as well as Apple's own original content. The TV service is expected to launch globally, an ambitious move to rival services from Netflix Inc. and Amazon.com Inc.'s Prime Video. Apple's App Store, where the service is likely to be distributed, is currently available in more than 100 countries.

Brexit up in the air as May makes third attempt at deal

3 British lawmakers will seek to use a vote on the government's next steps on Brexit on Monday to wrest control of the process and try to find a majority for an alternative way forward that would break the parliamentary deadlock. Britain had been due to leave the European Union on March 29, but after Prime Minister Theresa May's exit deal with Brussels was rejected twice by parliament, she agreed a delay

to Brexit in talks with the E.U. on Thursday. Now a departure date of May 22 will apply if parliament rallies behind the prime minister and she is able to pass her deal. If she fails, Britain will have until April 12 to offer a new plan or decide to leave the E.U. without a treaty. May has said she hopes to hold a vote on her deal this week, but hinted on Friday that she might not do so if there was not enough support for it to be passed.

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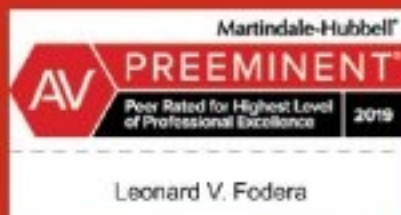
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NEWS



U.S. Attorney General William Barr.

REUTERS

US AG William Barr releases summary of Mueller report

DOJ says principal conclusions show no collusion.

Special Counsel Robert Mueller found no evidence of collusion between President Donald Trump's campaign team and Russia, and did not present enough evidence to warrant charging Trump with obstruction of justice, U.S. Attorney General William Barr said on Sunday.

In a major political victory for Trump, who quickly hailed the announcement as "complete and total exoneration," Mueller's nearly two years of investigation ended with a finding that no one in Trump's campaign "conspired or coordinated with the Russian government," according to a summary of Mueller's findings.

The long-awaited report into whether Trump's campaign colluded with Russia to help the Republican defeat his Democratic opponent, Hillary Clinton, marked a major milestone of his presidency as he prepares for his 2020 re-election battle. But Democratic opponents made clear that it would not end their political assault against him.

Mueller himself did not reach a conclusion on whether Trump broke the law by interfering with the various probes into the 2016 election that have cast a pall over his presidency, but presented his evidence to Barr to make a determination.

Many of Trump's opponents had accused the president of obstructing the Russia probe when he fired former FBI Director James Comey in 2017.

In a decision quickly attacked by Democrats, Barr, a Trump appointee who took office last month, and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein concluded that the evidence did not justify bringing obstruction charges, according to the Justice Department's four-page summary.

Barr quoted Mueller as writing in his report on the issue of possible obstruction of justice: "While this report does not conclude that the president committed a crime, it also does not exonerate him."

U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pe-

losi and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said in a joint statement that the fact that Mueller had not cleared Trump on the obstruction issue "demonstrates how urgent it is that the full report and underlying documentation be made public without any further delay."

U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr, a Republican, said Barr should release as much of Mueller's report as possible.

It remained unclear, however, how much more would be made public.

"It's a shame that our country had to go through this," Trump told reporters before boarding Air Force One to return to Washington from Florida. "This was an illegal takedown that failed. And hopefully, somebody's going to be looking at the other side."

Barr's summary said Mueller found no evidence that the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia, despite "multiple offers from Russian-affiliated individuals" to help them.

The closure of the special counsel's probe, while offering a potential political boost for Trump and a political weapon to wield against Democrats, does not mark the end of legal woes for Trump and people close to him.

Other investigations and litigation are focusing on issues including his businesses and financial dealings, personal conduct, charitable foundation and inaugural committee. Committees of the Democratic-controlled House are also preparing a series of their own inquiries.

U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Democratic chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said it "seems like the Department of Justice is putting matters squarely in Congress' court."

The release of the summary is likely to ignite a new political fight in Washington as Democrats push for Barr to release the full report, and Trump seizes on the findings as vindication of his near-daily assertion that he was a victim of a "witch hunt" that has

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The Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

March 24, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
2132 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Doug Collins
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
1594 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graham, Chairman Nadler, Ranking Member Feinstein, and Ranking Member Collins:

As a supplement to the notification provided on Friday, March 22, 2019, I am writing today to advise you of the principal conclusions reached by Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III and to inform you about the status of my initial review of the report he has prepared.

The Special Counsel's Report

On Friday, the Special Counsel submitted to me a "confidential report explaining the prosecution or declination decisions" he has reached, as required by 28 C.F.R. § 600.8(c). This report is entitled "Report on the Investigation into Russian Interference in the 2016 Presidential Election." Although my review is ongoing, I believe that it is in the public interest to describe the report and to summarize the principal conclusions reached by the Special Counsel and the results of his investigation.

The report explains that the Special Counsel and his staff thoroughly investigated allegations that members of the presidential campaign of Donald J. Trump, and others associated with it, conspired with the Russian government in its efforts to interfere in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, or sought to obstruct the related federal investigations. In the report, the Special Counsel noted that, in completing his investigation, he employed 19 lawyers who were assisted by a team of approximately 40 FBI agents, intelligence analysts, forensic accountants, and other professional staff. The Special Counsel issued more than 2,800 subpoenas, executed nearly 500 search warrants, obtained more than 230 orders for communication records, issued almost 50 orders authorizing use of pen registers, made 13 requests to foreign governments for evidence, and interviewed approximately 500 witnesses.

Handout image of AG Barr's letter to U.S. congressional leaders. REUTERS



U.S. President Donald Trump. REUTERS



Special Counsel Robert Mueller. GETTY

cast a long shadow over his presidency.

Although the Justice Department's summary rules out any conspiracy with Russia by the Trump campaign and associates, it leaves uncertainty over the question of obstruction of justice.

Mueller declined to draw a conclusion on whether Trump's conduct constituted obstruction, flagging "difficult issues" of law and fact concerning whether the President's actions and intent could be viewed as obstruction," according to Barr, who said that decision was left to him.

In his letter to lawmakers, Barr concluded that there was not enough evidence to move forward with such a charge.

"The report identifies no actions that, in our judgment, constitute obstructive conduct, had a nexus to a pending or contemplated proceeding, and were done with corrupt intent ... each of which ... would need to be proven beyond a reasonable

doubt," Barr explained in his letter to lawmakers.

Nadler called for Barr to testify to Congress, citing "very concerning discrepancies and final decision making at the Justice Department."

U.S. Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell noted Mueller's conclusion that there was no effort by Trump's campaign to conspire with Russia but said he was disturbed by ongoing Russian efforts to "interfere with our democracy" and looked forward to reviewing additional information from the special counsel's report.

Trump has always denied collaborating with Moscow or obstructing justice and Russia says it did not interfere in the election.

U.S. intelligence agencies concluded shortly before Trump took office in January 2017 that Moscow meddled in the election with a campaign of email hacking and online propaganda aimed at sowing discord in the United States.

REUTERS

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A Philadelphia urban garden.

GETTY IMAGE

Philadelphia officials creating plan for urban farms and gardens

Thousands of vacant lots to be turned into farmable land.

MICHAEL MARTIN
letters@metro.us

Philly officials are developing an Urban Agriculture Plan to encourage the city's booming farming and gardening culture, the Philadelphia Inquirer has reported.

The city has about 500 urban gardens, many of which have been started by African-Americans, immigrants and refugees on abandoned lots. Officials aim to encourage the trend by ensuring that residents have permission to farm on vacant land (which may be owned by others) and on soil that is free of contamination.

"This isn't about regulations," said Christine Knapp, director of the city's Office of Sustainability. "Rather, it's more a matter of coordinating or supporting the appropriate ways these gardens and farms should exist and could exist and serve a role in the city."

"We want to have a deep community engagement process," Knapp added. "If you want to garden or farm, let us help you figure out how to do that in the long term. Do you want to buy the land? Do you want it tested? So, it's not an attempt to clamp down on the practice."

"It's a matter of coordinating or supporting the appropriate ways these gardens and farms should exist and could exist and serve a role in the city."

Christine Knapp,
director of the city's
Office of Sustainability

To that end, the city's Urban Agriculture Plan is launching with a \$125,000 grant made by the William Penn Foundation to the nonprofit Mayor's Fund. The city will hire a consultant to research the issue, ask residents for suggestions and map out a strategy. The Mayor's Fund has called for potential consultants to

submit proposals for the gig by April 30.

Philadelphia has a lot of room to work with: According to Land Bank data, there are 43,000 vacant or abandoned lots in the city that could be turned into urban farms, the Inquirer reported.

As of 2016, there were 470 farms or gardens in operation across 600 lots, though half were on publicly owned lots and a third were on private land, meaning the gardeners are at risk of being uprooted from their investments.

The Urban Agriculture Plan will determine which spaces are best suited for farming and gardening and unlikely to be sold. It will also help connect urban farmers with markets to sell their produce. The Neighborhood Gardens Trust has given the city's initiative a thumbs-up, citing its concern that resident-created green spaces are being lost to redevelopment.

Officials are holding a Q&A session for those interested in helping create the plan on April 2, from 6 to 9 p.m., at One Parkway Building.

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Jefferson's School of Continuing & Professional Studies opens doors for adult learners

By Amy Smith

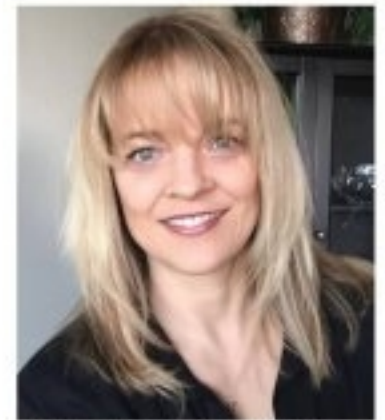
This has been an extraordinary academic year thus far, and we couldn't be more excited about the future of our School of Continuing & Professional Studies! The merger of Thomas Jefferson University Center City and Philadelphia University East Falls has been a positive union that's bringing so many opportunities to our school, faculty, alumni and students (both current and prospective). While some may find change to be intimidating

or unnecessary, we welcome this positive opportunity to do more and be better. The school will be focusing on embracing this new change and providing fresh opportunities to our adult learner population seeking continuing education. Our school currently has 14 bachelor's degree programs, with 12 being offered in an accelerated format of six eight-week terms in an academic year at the East Falls campus. We have three programs at the Center

City campus with more new program offerings coming next spring. Courses are offered in a face-to-face, hybrid, and online format to meet students wherever they are in life. The school also offers a forward-thinking Doctor of Strategic Leadership program. This program clearly defines leadership and is taught through a systems and design framework that's meaningful to the challenges of organizations operating in today's increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous environment. The School of Continuing & Professional Studies strives to focus on learning as a lifelong endeavor. We provide courses that are necessary in the modern workplace and also vital in preparing students for the future.

As life expectancy rises and more people stay in the workforce later in life, the need for knowledge and skills in various careers will evolve over their lifespan. The school reaches learners at all stages of professional development—like the adult learner who wants to pursue a position in middle management and needs to obtain their bachelor's degree, or someone who's looking for a career change that requires professional leadership skills. We also serve adult learners who are working toward the goal of finishing their degree. Personalized professional growth for our adult learners and leadership learners is our top priority. We focus on a high-touch enrollment and advising process, as well as providing mentorship from

quality faculty. This creates a positive and nurturing environment that leads students to feel a sense of belonging in our school. The School of Continuing & Professional Studies strives to provide an exemplary education that enhances communication, critical thinking, logic and reasoning skills in order to produce graduates who are prepared to lead and excel in the profession of their choosing. In other words, students learn, grow and develop in our programs. As we continue to reach out to adult learners and educate them on the importance of continuing education and obtaining a degree, we focus on creating new programs and opportunities that are value-added. We want to help you succeed in your goal of pursuing continuing education.



Shelley E. Osagie, EdD, Dean
School of Continuing &
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Director Peele, cast members Nyong'o, Alex, Wright Joseph and Duke attend the "Us" premiere at MOMA in New York City. REUTERS

Box office: Jordan Peele's 'Us' stuns with \$70 million opening

Talk about scary-good.

Universal's "Us," the second directorial effort from Jordan Peele, pulled off a stunning debut, generating \$70 million from 3,741 North American locations. That haul is enough to land it the second-best opening weekend of the year behind just Disney's "Captain Marvel" (\$153 million). The psychological thriller about a family confronted by a band of doppelgangers nearly doubled projections, which estimated a three-day total in the \$38 million to \$45 million range.

"Us" now has the largest weekend for an original horror movie, surpassing "A Quiet Place," as well as the biggest launch for an original R-rated film behind "Ted." It also shattered the benchmark set by Peele's directorial debut "Get Out," which launched with \$33 million in 2017.

Overseas, "Us" launched with \$16.7 million from 47 international territories for a global start of \$86.95 million.

"Put simply, Jordan Peele is a genius," said Jim Orr, Universal's president of domestic distribution. "He's managed to tap into something that the domestic box office can't get enough of. People can't wait to see what he does next."

Universal and Peele's Monkeypaw Productions produced "Us" for \$20 million. Since its debut at the South by Southwest Film Festival, "Us" has built up word of mouth. It has a 94 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, rare praise for the horror genre and a testament to Peele's ability to deliver scares that also encourage audiences to think. It stars Lupita Nyong'o and Winston

Duke as a couple forced to fend off bloodthirsty clones while vacationing with their kids.

Though the domestic box office has been struggling to match 2018's record pace, it's been a good year for Universal so far. The studio now boasts the second-, third-, and fourth-best opening weekends of 2019 with "Us," "How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World" (\$55 million) and "Glass" (\$40 million), respectively.

With the better-than-expected debut of "Us," ticket sales at domestic box office are pacing over 15 percent ahead of the same frame in 2018, when "Pacific Rim Uprising" was the No. 1 film in North America. As a whole, revenues are still behind 17 percent compared to last year, according to Comscore. That margin is shrinking, however, thanks to the success of "Captain Marvel" and now "Us."

While "Us" catered to moviegoers looking for a good fright, "Captain Marvel" was doing some terrifying business of its own during the superhero blockbuster's third weekend of release. The female-fronted tentpole added another \$35 million, taking its domestic tally past \$320 million.

Since no studios dared to release a movie in anticipation of "Us," a number of holdovers rounded out domestic box office charts. Paramount Pictures' animated adventure "Wonder Park" landed in third place, earning \$9 million for a North American bounty of \$29 million.

"Five Feet Apart," a romantic drama about two teens who fall in love while undergoing treatment for cystic fibrosis, secured the fourth slot with \$8.5 million. The film has earned \$26 million to date. REUTERS

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Aries Set high standards and cover as much ground as possible. If you know what you are talking about, you'll gain respect and the support you need to get what you want.



Libra Get out and do something that will add to your knowledge, skills and experience. Refuse to let situations at home slow you down. Compromise and move on to more enjoyable tasks.



Taurus Work quietly behind the scenes. Use your intelligence to overcome obstacles. Change is within reach, but making it happen will require finesse.



Scorpio Push the envelope when it comes to creative pursuits. Find a way to differentiate yourself from the competition. Dedication and hard work will pay off.



Gemini Take care of business without making a fuss. Be open to suggestions, but don't give in if someone is pressuring you to take on the impossible.



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Cancer If you offer something special or unique, you will get the help you need to make your idea fly. A change will turn out better than anticipated. Keep moving forward.



Capricorn Put some muscle behind your aspirations if you want to make progress. Your enthusiasm will gain you support as well as criticism. Don't get angry; use the advice offered to your benefit.



Leo If you take on too much or engage in indulgent behavior, you won't like the results. Take the high road and project an image that is consistent and discreet.



Aquarius Consider what's doable and what isn't. Don't be shy when you need help. Call in favors and get things done. Romance will eliminate tension and stress.



Virgo Don't put up with anyone playing emotional mind games. Be direct and eliminate chaos and discord from your life. Put your best foot forward and do your own thing.



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PUBLIC STORAGE # 24232, 2700 Grant Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19114, (215) 490-9431 • Time: 11:00 AM
B0091 - Candello, Kelly; C0104 - Boris, Jacqueline; D0185 - Coyle, Matthew; E0259 - Patterson, Edward; E0263 - Walker, Andrea; E0264 - Yates, Robert; F0364 - Jabarin, Omar; G0417 - Gibson, Joanne; H0453 - Barbosa, Jelson; H0480 - Paygar, Danny; H0496 - Ware, Diane; J0645 - Mensi, Anthony; J0651 - Shuff, Ronelle; J0672 - Janoff, Stuart; J0741 - Walton, Sharnia; J0751 - Nelson, Lois; J0817 - Nelson, Sonya; J0866 - Kelly, Taylor; M1054 - Thigpen-Robinson, Lenette; M1084 - Walcott Jr, Jerome
PUBLIC STORAGE # 21605, 3751 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA 19020, (215) 309-8353 • Time: 12:00 PM
B006 - Ambruster, Thomas; B023 - Williams, Winthine; B037 - Aikens, Jennifer; B135 - Fried, Richard; B210 - Hilton, Tracy; B227 - Taylor, Jesse; B292 - Newkirk, Ore; C099 - Suessenguth, Megan; C132 - Belfus, Max; C184 - Holovich, Terri
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LIFESTYLE

4 Fun things to do in Philly this week

Test your medical marijuana knowledge, step back in time to a 1920s speakeasy, and more.



MOLLY GIVEN
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Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this week? We've got you covered.

Uncorked: Wine & Cheese Tasting
Di Bruno Bros' owner and Vice President Emilio Mignucci and Wine & Beer's Category Manager Sande Friedman are teaming up for an evening filled with decadent cheese and delicious wine. Any Philadelphian who attends will also have the chance to win tickets to Philly Wine Week's Opening Corks

Kick-Off Event. March 26, 5:30-7 p.m., *The Market & Shops at Comcast Center, 1701 JFK Blvd.*, \$5, marketandshops.ticketleap.com

420EDx
Head to Field House this Wednesday evening to experience 420EDx. This non-profit organization helps medical marijuana patients and consumers by empowering them with information and educational events. This week's showcase will feature two special guests: former NHL Philadelphia Flyers player Riley Cote and former Eagles and Indianapolis Colts offensive lineman Todd Herremans. March 27, 6:30-9 p.m., *Field House, 1150 Filbert St.*, \$27-\$34, 420edx.com

Science After Hours:

Speakeasy
Head to the Franklin Institute this week and step back in time during its Speakeasy event. The evening will feature



"Bathtub Gin" tastings, the science of distillation, themed cocktails, live music from a 1920s-inspired jazz group, cabaret, magic tricks, presentations on the history of Philadelphia's

underground breweries during Prohibition, and much more. Dressing up in 1920s-inspired attire is encouraged. March 26, 7-10 p.m., *The Franklin Institute, 222 N. 20th St.*, \$20-\$25, fi.edu

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich at MOAR

The MOAR continues its celebration of Women's History Month with an enlightening discussion and Q&A featuring Laurel Thatcher Ulrich. The 300th Anniversary University Professor emerita from Harvard University will be discussing her book "The Age of Homespun: Objects and Stories in the Creation of an American Myth" during the event. March 28, 6 p.m., *Museum of the American Revolution, 101 S. 3rd St.*, amrevmuseum.org

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Hulu's 'Shrill' is one of spring's best and most important new comedies

The new show, starring "SNL's" Aidy Bryant, aims to further the discussion of body positivity. **PAT KING**

With the rollout of so many spring premieres of our favorite shows like "Veep" and "Game of Thrones," it's easy to look past some of the best new series making their way to the small screen this season. The brand-new Hulu show "Shrill," starring "Saturday Night Live's" Aidy Bryant, is one that will have you doubled over with laughter one minute and crying the next.

Based on the 2016 book "Shrill: Notes From a Loud Woman" by Lindy West, the show follows Bryant's character, Annie, as she tries

to navigate her professional life as a journalist in Portland, Oregon, while also trying to break free of the negative perception that society has created of women who are overweight. Normally more reserved and quiet, Annie has an epiphany and begins to take control of the things in her life that are holding her back, including her toxic romantic and personal relationships as well as her relationship with her gaslighting boss Gabe, played to smarmy perfection by John Cameron Mitchell.

West's book moved Bryant so much that choosing to play the role of Annie, as well as to co-write and produce the show, was a no-brainer. "I read Lindy's book and I loved it so

much," said Bryant at the show's premiere. "I immediately felt like I wanted to dive right into it."

It was a similar situation for showrunner Ali Rushfield, as she was completely enamored by West's story and her unique perspective on the world. "I was working with Warner Bros.," recalls Rushfield. "I read the book and assumed I wouldn't be interested in it. Then I thought, it was such an amazing story that should be on TV. It wasn't that complicated!"

Actor Luka Jones plays Ryan, Annie's semi-employed on-and-off love interest who hosts an Alcatraz-themed podcast with his friends called "Talkin' Traz." Ryan is



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completely oblivious to Annie's emotional needs, forgoing all formality to deepen their connections by texting monosyllabic, four-letter word booty calls and having her exit through the back door so his roommates don't see her. His outlook completely changes after he is confronted by Annie, and he begins to not take her for granted.

In many ways, Ryan can be viewed as the audience member who could most use a course-correction after

seeing the powerful message in "Shrill."

"It's an attractive aspect to the character," says Jones. "I think that there will be people who watch the show who are like Ryan who will be defensive for him, but since it's not them they will hopefully empathize with Annie and will reflect a little bit."

The series unfolds with Annie becoming more emboldened and going after what she wants and deserves in life, even if that means

blowing up the life that she already has. If the show gets picked up for a second season, Rushfield believes things will only get messier before they get better for Annie.

"I think she is such a bullet of accomplishments," said Rushfield. "From being quiet and afraid to become louder. I think she'll have to spin out in the future."

You can watch all six episodes of season 1 of "Shrill" on Hulu right now.

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Zachary Levi and Mark Strong talk about joining the superhero world in DC's 'Shazam!'

The new superhero film will be released in theaters April 5.

PAT KING

The number of superheroes in film today makes it a pretty crowded field. Both Marvel and DC have been introducing new characters and interpretations of their comics to a new generation of fans in what is arguably the golden age of superhero films. On April 5, DC will unleash its brand-new entry to the cannon as Zachary Levi will suit up as Shazam.

The film follows a young orphan named Billy Batson, played by Asher Angel, as he gets taken in by a new foster family. He becomes fast friends with his new brother Freddy Freeman, played by Jack

Dylan Grazer, who is a superhero fanatic, collecting both Batman and Superman artifacts and memorabilia. Batson quickly becomes familiar with the world of superheroes as he is all of the sudden transported into a mysterious dimension and given powers by an ancient wizard.

These powers give Batson the ability to switch into a grown-up superhero body (played by Levi) just by shouting the word "Shazam!" Once he has taken that form, Batson possesses superhuman strength, can conjure up lightning bolts through his fingertips, and fly. Or at least, he hopes he can fly?

Being a kid in a grown-up's body is a dream part for Levi, as he believes it's not too far from the

truth. And that's why he believes Shazam is his favorite superhero — even if he is a little bit biased.

"How can he [Shazam] not be your favorite?" Levi asks. "Besides the fact that I'm biased, he is the kid in all of us that gets to save the world. He's me living out my wish fulfillment! I get to have fun, and I don't have to be brooding. I don't have to hold in all of the enthusiasm that I think a lot of other actors have to hold in. They have to be cool. I don't have to do that, I get to genuinely take all of that enthusiasm and do it."

Director David F. Sandberg knew right away that this was the part that Levi was born to play. "It was when we saw his audition tapes that we figured it out," Sandberg remembers. "The com-

mon thread with adults trying to be kids is that they dumb it down or they lower their IQ. But Zach has this very child-like enthusiasm. That excitement, it makes him feel like an actual child, not someone who's trying to be a child, because he is basically a child."

While Levi may be having all of the fun, his antics are only heightened in comparison to the steely-eyed villain Dr. Sivana, played with pitch-perfect menace by the British actor Mark Strong. In fact, unlike many supervillains in these franchise films, Strong's performance is closer to that of a straight man opposite Levi.

"I quickly realized that there was so much fun and humor to be had in that story, that trying to make him funny was



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going to be the wrong move," explained Strong. "There's a couple of wry lines, I actually thought we're going to get a big laugh and they don't, because people are so protective. The audience felt very protective of the kids, and playing the bad guy is a great thing, but it surprised me. So yeah, I think being the straight man to the comedy was the right way to go with that."

For Levi, all of his years of being a fan first couldn't have prepared him for when he had to actually suit up as a superhero himself.

"Oh, it was crazy," Levi recalls. "It was all of my

dreams coming true, and now I'm literally staring at them, at myself. I'm wearing my dreams. It's a very surreal moment. It was very humbling, because I know my journey. I know all the things I've gone through in my life, and the dark moments and almost giving up and retiring from [the] business. There's been a lot of different things that could have gone a different way [where] I didn't end up in that suit. And so for all that to happen... I mean, I was putting the suit on — I had just got the job, I think it was like two days later I was getting fitted for the costume for real —

and I knew that I had been hired. I mean, clearly that's why I was putting the suit on. But in the back of my mind I was like, they're not going to change their minds, are they? Like, please don't change your mind. So it was all of that. It was all those emotions. But the one I feel most intensely is just gratitude. To get the opportunity to be in a movie like this and the movie turn out the way it did. That people feel the joy and the heart and the fun, which I think is lacking in a lot of the entertainment that I think we could use in the world right now. It's all just super groovy."



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Whether such pricing is fair depends on your perspective, but drivers can come out ahead by finding insurers that give their gender a break.

"The best thing you can do is to shop for insurance," says James Lynch, chief actuary for the Insurance Information Institute.

Who pays more?

Insurers analyze many factors, including driving records and demographics, to decide which drivers are more likely to have accidents and therefore should pay more. They're required to justify their rates to state regulators. In Hawaii, Massachusetts, Montana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, parts of Michigan and now California, insurers can't use gender as a factor. Elsewhere, the approach to gender varies widely.

"Until the last few

years, men always paid more," says Robert Hunter, director of insurance for the Consumer Federation of America. But in 2017 the group found most large car insurance companies often charge 40- and 60-year-old women more than their male counterparts.

The research, which priced basic liability insurance from six insurers in 10 cities, also found widespread inconsistencies. For example, Allstate quoted higher rates for 40-year-old women in Baltimore and higher rates for their male counterparts in Tampa, Florida, according to the data. For 20-year-olds in Cleveland, Farmers Insurance showed higher quotes for men while Geico had higher quotes for women.

A 2019 NerdWallet analysis found similar patterns for full-coverage policies, which provide broader protection. It examined average annual rates among the largest insurers in 20 ZIP codes of each state for a 2015 Toyota Camry for single 40-year-old drivers with clean records and good credit.

Seven of the country's 10 largest car insurance companies showed higher average rates for women in some states and higher rates for men in other states.

An example from NerdWallet's analysis underscores the importance of shopping for insurance. Here are two companies' average annual rates for drivers in Minnesota:

American Family: \$921 for women; \$917 for men. Allstate: \$1,859 for women; \$1,881 for men.

What drivers can do

"If you want a company that doesn't use gender [in setting rates], have that conversation with your agent or company," says Nicole Ganley, spokesperson at the American Property Casualty Insurance Association. "And shop around, because there's a lot of choices out there." **LISA GREEN**

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SPORTS

Minors-bound Phil Gosselin making positive mark on Phillies

The Phillies veteran journeyman is putting the finishing touches on a solid spring.



JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Usually, the premise of spring training is for Major League Baseball teams to find the best possible 25-men combination to field for the regular season.

With just days before the Phillies kick off their 2019 campaign, the finishing touches are being put on the final roster before a season that carries plenty of promise kicks off.

In terms of positional battles within the big club, there weren't many as the Phillies made four big signings during the offseason to address a roster lacking in legitimate depth. Bringing on stars like Bryce Harper, Andrew McCutchen, JT Realmuto, and Jean Segura eliminates any of those issues.

Yet the Phillies have already alerted one of their best offensive contributors — one who could have provided some infield depth — at spring training that he'll be starting the season in



Veteran infielder Phil Gosselin put together a successful spring training despite heading to triple-A. GETTY IMAGES

triple-A.

Infielder Phil Gosselin is putting on a show down in Clearwater, the 30-year-old slashing .410/.452/.744 in 17 games at spring training with two home runs and six RBI.

It was a strong showing for a player who has bounced around between the majors and minors for the past six years. With the Atlanta Braves, Arizona Diamondbacks, Pittsburgh Pirates, Texas Rangers, and Cincinnati Reds, Gosselin holds a .263 career batting average with just seven home runs in 276 career games.

He's shown an ability to hit the ball to all fields, including an opposite-field home run against the Pirates on Saturday, which is just another aspect that has impressed Phillies manager Gabe Kapler.

"[His spring performance] looks like something different than he's produced in his career. You don't see guys like that often hit the ball that he hit to right-center today. It's a little unusual," Kapler said, per NBC. "This is a big ballpark and the ball doesn't always go that well."

He continued to sing

the journeyman's praises.

"Real power, some decent bat-to-ball skills, really heady defender, a guy that everybody likes. Those are the guys that if you reach down in the middle of the summer, you're like, 'I'm really glad that this guy is in our organization,' because you trust him. You trust him to come up and perform."

Maybe it's the thought of playing for his hometown team that's fueling Gosselin's big spring. The Bryn Mawr, Pa., native grew up rooting for the Phillies and has cited the team as the reason why

he fell in love with baseball.

Yet Kapler looks as though he will be bringing just one single utility infielder back to Philadelphia come Opening Day, which will be the loser of the third-base starting job between Maikel Franco and Scott Kingery. Currently, the team's official depth chart has Kingery slotted in at the utility role.

Kingery has struggled during spring training, slashing .250/.308/.438 in 17 games, but provides plenty of promise at just 24 years old — enough where the Phillies have to

continue providing him with opportunities.

It's a shrewd move just by looking at the numbers, but Kingery's ceiling is much higher than Gosselin's.

Should the Phillies decide to carry 13 pitchers into Opening Day, Kingery or Franco will be joined on a four-man bench by backup catcher Andrew Knapp and utility outfielders Nick Williams and Aaron Altherr.

However, if there is an opening that comes about throughout the season, Gosselin looks primed to be the first call-up made by Kapler.

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

Competition between companies is a great thing for a consumer, and no doubt there's plenty of competition in the Philadelphia-New Jersey area right now between sportsbooks, both online and retail.

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ket is through promotions and features that are truly unmatched," PointsBet NJ CEO Johnny Aitken told MetroBet. "Early Payout is one example, whereby if you bet on a team to win the game and they're leading at halftime, we grade the bet as a winner and immediately pay it out. We've done that for NBA,

NHL, EPL and Champions League, as well as James Harden MVP futures. That's in addition to all of our PointsBetting-related promotions, No Juice SpreadLines, our Name-A-Bet feature and 'Good Karma Payouts' where we refund bettors in bonus bets for injustices that swung a winning bet to

TWEET OF THE DAY

Barrett Sallee
@BarrettSallee

A reminder that your bracket isn't busted unless you lose Final Four teams.

a losing one. Simply put, you won't find a more aggressive platter of offers and promotions anywhere else in the space, which is how we're setting ourselves apart."

Here is an example of how pointsbetting works. If your bet wins by one point, you would win 1x your bet amount. If your bet wins by two points, you win 2x the stake. If your bet wins by 10 units, you win 10x the stake. On the flip side, if you lose your bet by two points, you would lose 2x the stake, and so on.

Best Bets

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Sixers vs. Magic

We look for the Sixers to bounce back here off a bad loss to the Hawks on Saturday night. They didn't have an answer for Trae Young but the Magic don't have a player that can get to the rim and distribute the ball like he was able to. Throw in the fact that the Sixers are 15-7 ATS off a straight-up loss and that they have covered the number in six of their last eight road games against the Magic, and we're going to lay the points with them here to get the road win and cover in Orlando on Monday night.

THE PICK:
Sixers minus the points

Sports betting 101: What are totals?



When you're looking at the betting odds for totals, this is a reflection of the combined score of both teams. That means that you are looking at whether the combined score of both sides will go over or under a set number. (For that reason, this type of bet is also often called an over/under bet.) For example, the sportsbook might set the total at 66 for an Eagles game against a high-scoring opponent. This means that they predict that the two teams will score a combined total of 66 points. You will then place a wager on whether the actual com-

bined score will be over or under that amount. If you think that one or both teams have a particularly strong offense and it will be a high-scoring affair, you would bet over. If you think it will be a defensive struggle, ending in very low scores on both or either side, then you would bet under. If the final score is something like 44-40, then the combined score would be 84, meaning the game is an over. If the final score is something like 33-32, making the combined score 65, then it is an under.

Sometimes, the combined scores will land right on the total. In our example, if the score ended up being something like 34-32, then the combined score would be 66, exactly the predicted total. This situation is called

a push or a tie. In these cases, no one wins the bet, and you would simply get your money back. To avoid these situations, sportsbooks will often set the total at a half-number, like 66.5. This way, if the final combined score was 66, it would be an under, and a 67 would be an over.



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Don't forget about good ol' fashioned **luck**

Remember these "randomizers" during March Madness.

If this is your first March Madness betting experience, you've probably noticed that luck plays an important role in determining which team covers any given game.

While it's true that sports betting is "beatable" compared to casino options like roulette, craps, and slot machines that are rigged to favor the house — that doesn't mean bettors are immune from luck!

Here are a few "randomizers" in college basketball:

✱ Three-point shooting. Offenses can blow hot and cold with little warning. Even the



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best long-range teams will have off nights. Even the worst will have hot runs. You'll see NCAA Tournament stretches where it seems like every cover goes to the team that just happened to shoot better on bombs.

✱ Crunch time shooting. Because team skill sets and tendencies are so well known, many games are close to the point spread in the final minutes. Who's going to get good looks and make them? Who's going to see close shots spin out? No

way to know in advance. In Dance contests within a bucket of pick-em, it's often blind luck that determines who wins and advances.

✱ Officiating. Some refs have a quick whistle, others let players play, par-

ticularly when the game is on the line. If you've backed an underdog with a short rotation in front of an official that wants to be on camera all day, bad news!

Player health. It's a physical game, and star players can go down without any notice. When making long-range bets on futures or season-win totals in pro sports, you can account for "injury-prone" veterans. In a one-game college basketball sprint, you just have to hope for the best.

This is why you should never bet outside your means during the NCAA Tournament. No matter how logical a pick might seem, how dominant a favorite might look in your matchup analysis, or how hot you've been with your prior picks — any of these randomizers can come

along to ruin your day.

Blackjack pros don't always get their face card after doubling down on an 11 in a loaded deck. The dealer doesn't always bust when hitting a vulnerable hand. Even when "advantage" bettors are in a position of strength, they must respect the potential of bad luck. Over time, they'll also catch some good luck that will turn probable losers into winners.

It's a good habit for new bettors to evaluate their picks after the fact, to determine how much of the result was due to luck. Were winners really a sign of smart handicapping? Or did you just catch a few breaks? Were losers really the fault of the refs, the coaches, or shooters "choking"? Maybe you were just wrong!

JEFF FOGLE

Sports on TV Highlights

7:00 pm	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers vs. Orlando Magic	
7:00 pm	Women's CBB UCLA vs. Maryland	
7:30 pm	NHL Hockey Boston Bruins vs. Tampa Bay Lightning	
8:00 pm	NHL Hockey Nashville Predators vs. Minnesota Wild	
9:00 pm	Men's CBB Norfolk State vs. Colorado	
9:00 pm	Women's CBB California vs. Baylor	

Magic vs. Sixers: Betting preview

The Orlando Magic (35-38) are making a serious push for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference as they've won four straight and have upped their game on both ends of the floor. Meanwhile, defense has become optional for the Sixers (47-26). They won four straight despite giving up 114 points or more per game before suffering an embarrassing defeat at the hands of the Hawks on Saturday night. The Magic should be able to conjure up another cover for their backers at the Amway Center on Monday night.

During Orlando's four-



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game win streak, they've averaged 112.6 points per game while limiting opponents to fewer than 100 points three times. They're 3-1 against the spread in this stretch. Center Nikola

Vucevic (20.7 points per game, 12.7 rebounds per game) has been his usual brilliant self, but secondary scoring is on the improve. Shooting guards Evan Fournier and Terrence Ross have combined for 99 points in their last two games, significantly outperforming their season averages.

Philly's offense typically struggles on the road, dropping from 115.3 points per game overall to 112.6 points per game outside the Wells Fargo Center. Per Covers.com, the Magic are 8-3 against the spread in their last 11 home games. **ROBERT CRISCOLA**

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Adoption Number: A-8828; A-8829

Docket Number: CP-40-DP-150-2017 & 151-2017

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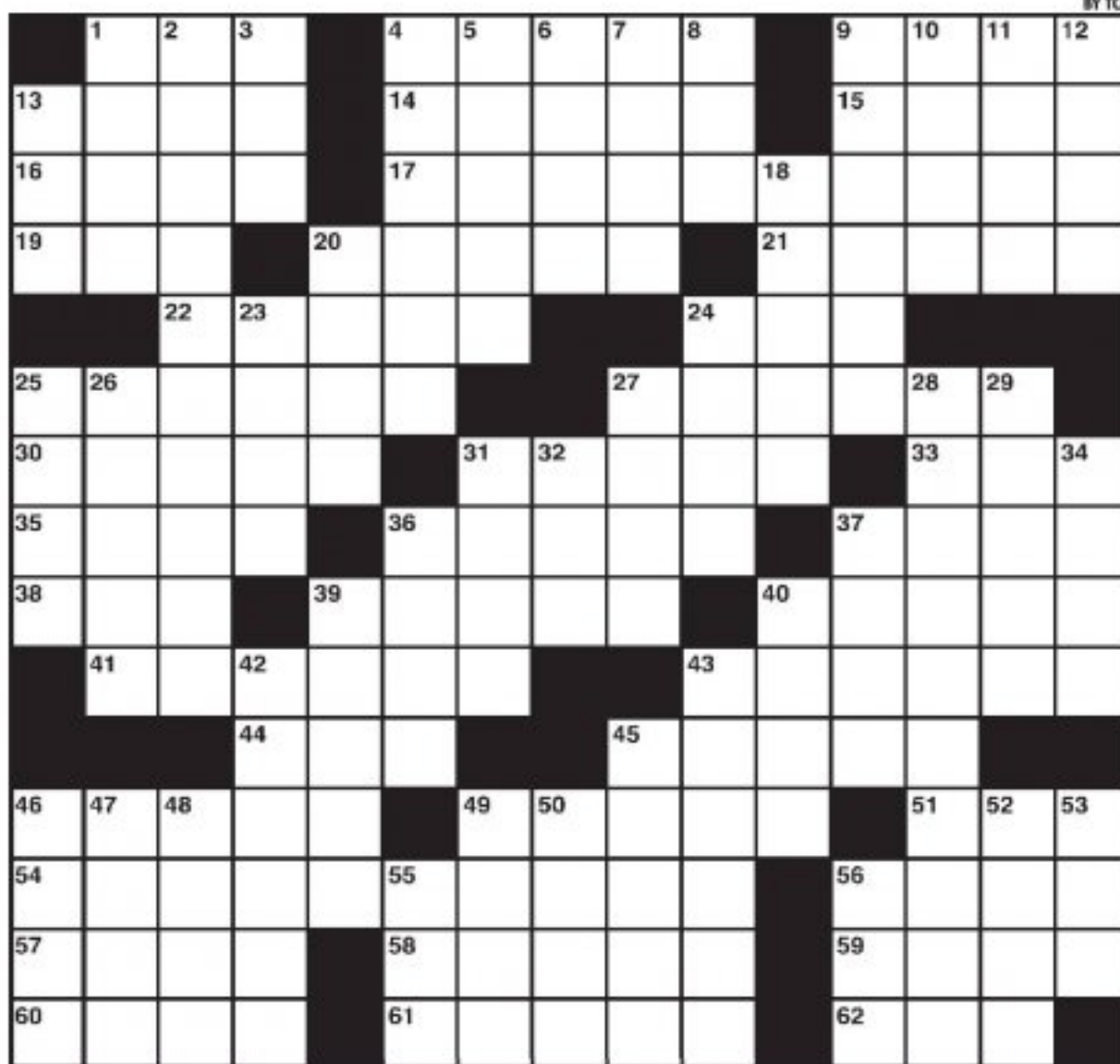
GAMES

Check your answers
at metro.us/games

ACROSS

- 1 Cabin wall piece
4 Rattled
9 Any minute now
13 "Have a ___ day!"
14 U.S. state
15 "Can't Buy Me ___"; Beatles song
16 All at ___; suddenly
17 Grinds to bits
19 Actress Leoni
20 Dangerous
21 Chris with a racket
22 Twenty
24 Brewed drink
25 Codeine or morphine
27 Trunk tires
30 Actor Jeremy
31 Stupid
33 ___ tree; cornered
35 Dryer residue
36 Paths
37 Sign of an old surgery
38 Caspian or Black
39 Worked with hay
40 Charisma
41 Like a scumbag
43 Seals gaps in woodwork
44 Bawl
45 Weather forecast
46 TV's "___ World Turns"
49 Air freshener
51 Greek letter
54 Tracking dog
56 Falling ___; meteor
57 Overdue
58 Sweet person
59 Enormous
60 Make ___ at; flirt with
61 Suspicious
62 Feminine ending

metro.us/crossword

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DOWN

- 1 Out of ___; misbehaving
2 Occurring now and then
3 Word of mild surprise
4 Baseball official
5 TV remote button
6 Kimono fabric
7 Covetousness
8 Shirt, for short
9 Dieter's piece of pie
10 Seep out
11 ___ the moon; elated
12 Cardinal's home
13 Last but ___ least
18 Pass on, as a message
20 Decays
23 Isn't able to
24 Ridicules
25 Lubricates
26 Uses a crowbar
27 Drove too fast
28 Fast-growing evergreen
29 ___ plugs; car starters
31 Tyne or Tim
32 Half and half
34 Up in ___; angry
36 Slothful
37 Have nothing to do with
39 Exposed
40 Walking stick
42 Repeats
43 Like a soft teddy bear
45 Not as nuts
46 Suffix for chew or agree
47 Murder
48 Carry
49 "___ with the Wind"
50 Winter Olympics sport
52 Droops
53 Galway's nation: abbr.
55 Actor Linden
56 That woman



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